Community Inclusion Playgroup Project

Summary of Activities July 1, 2005 – February 1, 2006

Prepared for the Learning Conversation with the Placer Children & Families Commission February 2, 2006 <u>Outcome</u>: All families served are supported in becoming knowledgeable and competent in child nurturing, child interaction, child learning, and parenting skills that promote positive child development.

<u>Performance Measure:</u> Ages and Stages Questionnaire for children in Early Head Start participating in the playgroup.

<u>Table 2:</u> Ages and Stages Questionnaire

*If the child's score falls below the cutoff score consider a referral.

Child's Name: JB DOB: 11/14/02

Developmental Areas		30 months		36 months
Communication	50	cutoff 38.8	50	cutoff 38.7
Gross Motor	55	30.6	50	35.7
Fine Motor	35	225.2	60	30.7
Problem Solving	45	28.9	50	38.6
Personal-Social	55	36.9	60	38.7

Child's Name: HH DOB: 3/13/03

Developmental Areas		30 months		33 months
Communication	60	cutoff 38.8	60	cutoff 35
Gross Motor	60	30.6	60	25
Fine Motor	60	25.2	60	25.2
Problem Solving	60	28.9	60	28.9
Personal-Social	60	36.9	60	36.9

Child's Name: JT DOB: 3/20/03

Developmental Areas		33 months	
Communication	60	cutoff 35	
Gross Motor	60	25	
Fine Motor	60	25	
Problem Solving	25	25	
Personal-Social	60	25	

Child's Name: AS DOB: 1/7/04

Developmental Areas		24 months	
Communication	60	cutoff 36.5	
Gross Motor	50	36	
Fine Motor	60	36.4	
Problem Solving	55	32.9	
Personal-Social	60	35.6	

Child's Name: SR DOB: 11/12/03

Developmental Areas		22 months	
Communication	60	cutoff 35	
Gross Motor	60	25	
Fine Motor	60	25	
Problem Solving	60	25	
Personal-Social	60	25	

ASQ:SE

*If the child's score falls above the cutoff score a referral is considered.

Child's Name: JB DOB: 11/14/02

36 months

Score: 40 Cutoff: 59

Child's Name: HH DOB: 3/13/03 30 months

Score: 15 Cutoff: 57

Child's Name: SR DOB: 11/12/03

22 months

Score: 25 Cutoff: 50

<u>Outcome:</u> All families served are supported in becoming knowledgeable and competent in child nurturing, child interaction, child learning, and parenting skills that promote positive child development.

<u>Performance Measure:</u> Monthly newsletter sent home to parents

- Many Placer ARC-Infant Development Program parents and EHS parents shared they would be interested in knowing the month's activities.
- EHS parents are not able to regularly attend the playgroup, and the newsletter provides a link between the teachers and parents.

Baby Steps Inclusive Play Group June 2005

This month our theme is In the Garden!

<u>In and Around the Classroom:</u> We will be planting bean seeds to watch them grow over the next month. Chat with your child about seeds and what they see as the sprouts grow. We will have a dirt table to dig in and use child sized rakes and shovels. We will be making coffee filter flowers with markers and spray bottles. Ask your child what color their flower was and if it was hard to squirt the bottle.

<u>Music and Movement:</u> We will sing along with Raffi about planting seeds and different bugs in the garden. You can encourage your child to make bzzzing noises like bumblebees!

<u>Snack Time</u>: Of course we will enjoy garden veggies this month for snack! We plan to dip dip our veggies in ranch dressing. Yummy bell pepper, cucumbers, and snow peas are on the menu. Ask your child if they liked snack today and if it was crunchy or not. Talk about the different colors and smells each of the veggies has.

<u>Outside Time</u>: The water pool will be available to splash in, maybe it will even be at the end of the slide! The sand box is always a choice too. We have been seeing lots of ladybugs in the yard lately, ask your child if they saw one today.

Remember, the sun is bright during our outside time, please slather up your child in sunscreen before they arrive!

<u>Ask Your Child:</u> Did they like splashing in the water pool? Was the water warm or cold? What was their favorite part of the play group today?

Just a reminder that PIDP takes a summer break in June so the last day of the playgroup is June 14. We'll see you in July!



Baby Steps Inclusive Play Group August 2005

This month our theme is Ooey Gooey!

<u>In and Around the Classroom:</u> We will be playing with Gak (an elmer's glue mixture) and Toddler Mud (ivory snow and toilet paper). Ask your child about these activities. Was the mud cold? Was it squishy? Did it have a smell? Did the Uubleck run off the table? Did they it enjoy the ooey gooey activities? We will also be playing with cold noodles, ask your child what shape the noodles were and if they enjoyed sinking their fingers into the bowl.

<u>Music and Movement:</u> We will continue to sing "Who is this?" and wait for our friends to uncover their faces so we can see who it is. We will be singing "Wheels on the Bus" as we turn our parachute in a circle like the wheels

<u>Snack Time</u>: Our snacks will be oney gooey this month as we enjoy things like Jello Jigglers and pudding. We will all work together to make ice cream in an ice cream maker. Ask your child what we had for snack today.

<u>Outside Time</u>: The water pool will be available to splash in, maybe it will even be at the end of the slide! The sand box is always a choice too. We will run through a sprinkler and play in shaving cream. Bubbles will be out for the kids to play with and we will practice squirting water bottles outside. Remember, the sun is bright during our outside time, please slather up your child in sunscreen before they arrive!

<u>Ask Your Child:</u> Did they like splashing in the water pool? Was the water warm or cold? What was their favorite part of the play group today? What did they play with today that was ooey and gooey? What do they play with at home that is ooey and gooey?



Baby Steps Inclusive Play Group September 2005

This month our theme is Transportation!

<u>In and Around the Classroom:</u> This month we will have white paper on wedges for the kids to roll cars down. They can chose to dip the wheels in paint first or just roll the cars down without paint. We will have car and truck puzzles available and an obstacle course built out of foam equipment. Encourage your child to take a ride in the wooden boat, and sing the words to "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" while they rock back and forth in the boat.

<u>Music and Movement:</u> We will continue to sing "Who is this?" and wait for our friends to uncover their faces so we can see who it is. We will be singing "Wheels on the Bus" and "Motorboat Motorboat". Rhetta will be teaching us all a fun new train song! You can sing other fun transportation songs in the car while you drive to Baby Step!

<u>Snack Time</u>: We will make wheel pizzas together and watch as they go in and out of the oven. Yummy! We will also be enjoying Jello Jigglers in the shape of cars. Ask your child what we had for snack today.

<u>Outside Time:</u> The roller coaster will be set up outside this month. Ask your child what it felt like to crash into the blue beanbags at the end of the roller coaster. The sand box is always a choice too. We will have the slide set up to land in the sandbox. Does your child like the way it feels to land in the sand? Remember, the sun is bright during our outside time, please slather up your child in sunscreen before they arrive!

<u>Ask Your Child:</u> Does your child remember the words to our songs? Was the rollercoaster fun or scary? What was their favorite part of the play group today? What did they play with today that had to do with transportation? What do they play with at home that involves transportation?



Baby Steps Inclusive Play Group October 2005

This month our theme is Welcome Fall!

<u>In and Around the Classroom</u>: This month we will have pumpkin cut outs available for the kids to color and use stamps on. Ask your child if they used stamp pads to make fingerprints on their pumpkin cut outs. Later in the month, we will have pumpkins out for the kids to explore. One pumpkin will be cut open so the kids can feel the squishy insides. Ask your child what they thought about the gooey pumpkins! We will also do leaf impressions as an art project. Chat with your child about the different leaves you see in your daily routines. What color and shapes are the leaves you see?

<u>Music and Movement:</u> We will continue to sing "Who is this?" and wait for our friends to uncover their faces so we can see who it is. We will be singing "5 Little Pumpkins" and using our decorated pumpkin cut outs. We will continue to use the parachute to talk about up/down.

<u>Snack Time:</u> This month we will enjoy dipping carrots and fresh green beans in ranch dressing. We will also eat pumpkin spice bread and dip apples in caramel. Ask your child about their snack today. Was it crunchy? Did they chose to use the dip that was available? Did they enjoy snack?

<u>Outside Time</u>: We will be putting the easel outside this month. One side is a chalk board, the other side is for painting. Ask your child what side they used. We will also have pumpkin spice playdough for the kids to play with and a slippery new slide that lands in the ball pit! Of course, the sand box will also be available.

Ask Your Child: Does your child remember the words to our songs? What was their favorite part of the play group today? Did they play with pumpkins or leaves today? What was their favorite part of playgroup today?



Baby Steps Inclusive Play Group November 2005

This month our theme is Turkey Time!

<u>In and Around the Classroom:</u> This month we will be exploring all aspects of a Thanksgiving feast. We will be mashing potatoes, making construction paper turkeys, and talking about what makes a Thanksgiving feast so yummy!

<u>Music and Movement:</u> We will continue to sing "Who is this?" and wait for our friends to uncover their faces so we can see who it is. We will be learning fun turkey songs (words are on the back) also. Ask your child to sing along with you while you drive in the car.

<u>Snack Time</u>: For snack we will be sampling a Thanksgiving feast, trying a new part of the feast every week. We will be enjoying mashed potatoes with gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie. Ask you child what they had for snack today. Did they like it? Talk about what they can expect to eat at your house for Thanksgiving Day.

<u>Outside Time</u>: The wooden slide and wooden balance beam will be out for the children to continue to play on. The wooden slide is a fast slide, ask your child if they like going fast down the slide! The sandbox will be open, as usual. We will have different tabletop activities for the kids to play with on the picnic table. You can ask you child what the outside table activity today was.

<u>Ask Your Child:</u> Are they looking forward to Thanksgiving this month? What is their favorite thing to eat on Thanksgiving? Can they tell you the name of some of their friends in the playgroup?

Turkey Songs

A turkey is a funny bird, His head goes wobble wobble. And he knows just one word, GOBBLE GOOBLE!

Gobble, gobble, gobble, Who said that? Big old turkey, Big and fat! Gobble, Gobble, Gobble What did he say? Eat me on Thanksgiving Day!

Baby Steps Inclusive Play Group January 2006

This month our theme is Brrr It's cold outside!

<u>In and Around the Classroom:</u> This month we will be talking about snow and snowmen. We will have bins of shredded paper to play in, and we will decorate snowflakes to hang in the classroom. Talk with your child about snow and how cold it is. Ask them if they liked the shredded paper bins or if they want to make snowflakes with you at home.

<u>Music and Movement:</u> We will continue to sing "Who is this?" and wait for our friends to uncover their faces so we can see who it is. We will sing "I'm a little snowman" (words on the back of this paper) and move our bodies with the words. We also take requests so be sure to talk with your child about the names of their favorite songs.

<u>Snack Time</u>: We will sip hot chocolate and try yummy soup to warm us up after all that talk about snowflakes! We will also enjoy crackers and fruit on the warmer, sunny days. Talk with your child about the snack they had and ask them what they liked and didn't like about it.

<u>Outside Time</u>: Because we expect lots of rain in January, we will bring the outside in! The large outside slide will be set up for the children to enjoy. We'll also have the rollercoaster ramp inside. Various swings will be available, and of course the ball pit and large foam pieces will be set up for the kids to jump on.

<u>Ask Your Child:</u> What was their favorite part of playgroup today? What was their least favorite part? Ask them to chat with you about the toys they like to play with or the names of their teacher.



Snowman Song

(To the tune of "I'm a little teapot")

I'm a little snowman,
Short and fat.
Here is my broomstick
Here is my hat.
When the sun comes up,
I melt away.
Down, Down, Down
To a puddle I lay (melt down and lay on the floor)

<u>Outcome</u>: All families served are supported in becoming knowledgeable and competent in child nurturing, child interaction, child learning, and parenting skills that promote positive child development.

<u>Performance Measure:</u> Narratives/Developmental Observations from weekly meetings.

The following are narratives that are shared during our weekly planning meeting. Together as a team we are able to plan accordingly to meet every child's needs/interest.

July 2005

Declan took several licks of his Popsicle after watching the other children enjoy theirs.

Ayden sat through all of snack time and regularly signed 'want' and 'more' without adult prompts.

Several new children from Baby Steps joined the group today and they all did a great job of following the classroom routine.

During free play time, James scooped pretend ice cream and served it to the other children in the class. Everyone enjoyed their tasty treat and we heard a lot of yums!

Gabe and Kevin took turns climbing in and out of the tunnel and yelling "Where's ______?" when the other one was inside.

Ashley moved independently around the room exploring today. This was very different from Tuesday when she needed a lot of support from her mom.

Ayden and Declan worked together to build a tower of blocks and then crash them over.

Ashley was willing to take her clothes off and slide down the slide that was covered in shaving cream. She laughed after the first time and wanted to do it again.

August 2005

Gabe was repeating a lot of the words the teachers were saying during outside play time.

Declan tasted the mustard on his pretzel during snack time.

James put his sandals on by himself today and was particularly proud that he put them on the correct feet by himself!

Kevin requested "Old McDonald" during song time and then sang along with a loud voice.

Ashley independently chose to play in the beans today and was comfortable with her mother being across the room while she was in the bean bin.

Ayden and Declan loved the shaving cream slip and slide! After sliding down the



first time, both boys made sure they rubbed the shaving cream all over their bodies!

Ayden said "My baby!" and "mine" when someone tried to take his baby.

Ashley played in the noodle bin independently while her mom was across the play yard.



Jasmine and Evie have transitioned into the program very well.

September 2005

Gabe said "Come on over!" to get Jasmine to join him on the inner tubes and Ayden said "Hot!" when he first touched the inner tubes.

Mariah and Farrah (Student teacher) were playing in Gak. Mariah imitated a lot of Farrah's movements with the Gak.

Hailey requested the "Bumpity bump" verse while we were singing "Wheels on the Bus".

Mariah sat down at the table to participate in making her pizza for us to cook before snack time.

Ashley noticed her mom was across the room and called out "Ma ma" to show her the toy she was playing with.

Mariah joined the other children to play in the paint. She switched colors with other children, and made room when others came over.

Ayden covered his head with the scarf while we sang "Who is This?" After we sang, James said "It's Ayden! Hello Ayden."

Hailey and Evie helped Vanessa read "Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?" by naming the animals and making the animal noises.

Ashley picked up a toy baby and started feeding her a pretend bottle.

Jonathan and Gabe had a good time rolling the tunnel all around the classroom.

The teachers in the classroom noticed that after Ayden swung for a long time, he was able to sit through circle time, sit through snack, and finish his snack without dumping his drink to indicate he was done eating.

October 2005

Jonathan is beginning to learn the words to the songs and will sing along.

Mariah imitated another child chatting on the pretend telephone and said "Hello" when she held the phone up to her ear.

Hailey marched over to James and Gabe and said "You pick these up!" and pointed to the bird seed they had just thrown on the floor!

James enjoyed exploring the cut up pumpkin and squished the seeds all around in his hands.

Jonathan and Ashley built block towers together with the big red blocks.



Everyone enjoyed the cold Jello jigglers and warm apple cider.

Gabe, James, and Hailey were working with Retta on fitting the Jack o Lantern pieces into the pumpkin.

Mariah was dancing a baby on her lap and singing a little song. After, she picked up a purse, put it on, picked up the baby, and walked away.

November 2005

Cody and Hailey played peek-a-boo with the mats. Cody's dad joined in the fun and helped keep it going.

Mariah was very interested in playing with Vanessa today, and easily followed one step directions during the play.

Hailey and Jonathan worked together to roll the blue barrel back into place during clean up time.

Ayden held the animal mask up to his face while we all sang "Who Is This?" during music time. After his turn, he gave it to another child.

December 2005

Jonathan spent a long time in the barrel swing today, singing songs to himself and then with Sage when she joined him.

Ayden helped Sue stack up the blocks during clean up time.

Cody tried a bite of apple during snack time on Tuesday, and then on Thursday pretended to take a bite from a pretend apple.

Sage, Jasmine, and Hailey swung inside the barrel swing and giggled the entire time.

Ayden dipped his pretzel in his hot chocolate one bite at a time.

January 2006

All of the children climbed onto the foam building blocks and worked together to call it a train. They played together like this for several minutes.







The swing was popular this week!

Everyone enjoyed peeling their own mandarin oranges during snack time today.

Four of the children built a snowman out of the bunting in the ball pit.

The shredded paper in the ball pit caused quite a "snow storm" in the classroom!





**The Commission is welcome to attend any of our weekly team meetings. They are every Thursday from 1pm-2pm!

<u>Outcome</u>: The modular is used by the community for meetings and gatherings on a fee basis resulting in a funding source other than First 5 to pay for team meetings.

<u>Performance Measures:</u> Tracking community usage of the modular along with revenues and expenses placed in a protected account for the playgroup team meetings.

Income from Community Playgroup: \$150.00

Expenses:

Staff Salaries for 7/05-12/06 \$8089.46

<u>Outcome</u>: All families served are supported in becoming knowledgeable and competent in child nurturing, child interaction, child learning, and parenting skills that promote positive child development.

<u>Performance Measure</u>: Early Intervention Developmental Profile for families in the Placer ARC- Infant Development Program.

<u>Table 3</u>: Early Intervention Developmental Profile

Child's Name: Mariah A.

DOB: 4/26/03

Developmental Areas	CA: 24 months	CA: 30 months
Fine Motor	12 to 15 months	20 to 23 months
Cognition	16 to 19 months	20 to 23 months
Social/Emotional	24 to 27 months	25 to 28 months
Self Help	12 to 15 months	20 to 23 months
Gross Motor	20 to 23 months	27 to 30 months
Language	12 to 15 months	13 to 15 months

Mariah has a diagnosis of Down Syndrome. She has been receiving early intervention services from Placer ARC-Infant Development Program since she was an infant. When Mariah first started playgroup, she had a difficult time sitting down during snack time and playing with the other children. Now, Mariah sits through snack and independently feeds herself, mainly finger feeding. She will also run to get her shoes when it is time to play outside, and sit still while her mom puts them on her. Mariah enjoys interacting with the other children in the group, especially during free play inside. Mariah and her family moved to Oregon in December.

Child's Name: Declan W.

DOB: 9/13/02

Developmental Areas	CA: 31 months	CA: 36 months
Fine Motor	24 to 27 months	32 to 35 months
Cognition	32 to 35 months	32 to 35 months
Social/Emotional	32 to 35 months	32 to 35 months
Self Help	24 to 35 months	30 to 35 months
Gross Motor	28 to 31 months	32 to 35 months
Language	28 to 35 months	31 to 35 months

Declan was born premature and has had a long journey of feeding challenges due to reflux. It is of great significance that Declan's self-care skills continue to improve. Declan is willing to sit down at the table for the entire snack time and have an interest in what is being served. He will drink a variety of beverages, including fruit nectars, apple cider, and milk. He likes to dip veggies like bell peppers and cucumbers in ranch dressing and lick the dip off. Declan has been receiving early intervention services from Placer ARC-Infant Development Program since he was 6 months old. He has received home visits from a Nurse/ Infant Educator, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, and Mental Health/ Infant Educator.

Child's Name: Ashley Z.

DOB: 11/1/02

Developmental Areas	CA: 34 months	
Fine Motor	20 to 23 months	
Cognition	20 to 23 months	
Social/Emotional	28 to 31 months	
Self Help	20 to 23 months	
Gross Motor	16 to 19 months	
Language	12 to 15 months	

Ashley was a part of the playgroup for three months before she turned three. She has a diagnosis of hypothyroidism and a possible malabsorption syndrome. Ashley struggles with trying new foods and leaving her mother's side. While she was a part of the playgroup she began to stay at the snack table for the entire snack. We also watched her slowly leave her mother's side and enter into play with the other children in the classroom.

Child's Name: Gabriel G.

DOB: 2/24/03

Developmental Areas	CA: 25 months	CA: 34 months
Fine Motor	24 to 27 months	
Cognition	24 to 27 months	
Social/Emotional	24 to 27 months	
Self Help	24 to 31 months	
Gross Motor	24 to 27 months	
Language	25 months	31 months

Ages and Stages Questionnaire

Developmental Areas		36 months	
Communication	40	cutoff 38.7	
Gross Motor	50	35.7	
Fine Motor	60	30.7	
Problem Solving	50	38.6	
Personal-Social	55	38.7	

Gabe attends the playgroup as an Early Head Start child but also has an IFSP and receives speech therapy services through Placer ARC-Infant Development Program. Gabe is a wonderful model for the other children in imaginative play and snack time. He is working on using his words to have his needs met during the playgroup, or to let other children know a particular toy is busy.

Child's Name: Ayden S.

DOB: 1/10/03

Developmental Areas	CA: 25 months	CA: 34 months
Fine Motor	24 to 27 months	35 months
Cognition	20 to 23 months	28 to 35 months
Social/Emotional	24 to 27 months	32 to 35 months
Self Help	24 to 30 months	24 to 35 months
Gross Motor	28 to 31 months	32 to 35 months
Language	15 to 18 months	20 to 25 months

When Ayden first joined the playgroup, he had a diagnosis of mild hearing loss to do chronic ear fluid. He eventually had tubes placed in his ears which eliminated the fluid and the hearing loss. During his time in the playgroup, it became clear that Ayden benefited from the sensory activities offered in the classroom. When Ayden's sensory needs were met through swinging or big motor play, Ayden was successful in following our classroom routine and interacting with other children. Ayden's family also learned some strategies to use at home to help them have a successful family routine.

Child's Name: Jonathan F.

DOB: 3/8/03

Developmental Areas	CA: 29 months	CA: 34 months
Fine Motor	24 to 27 months	
Cognition	24 to 27 months	
Social/Emotional	28 to 31 months	
Self Help	24 to 31 months	
Gross Motor	24 to 27 months	
Language	23 months	35 months

Jonathan has been part of our playgroup since October. In this short time, Jonathan has made great strides in using his words to communicate his needs with the teachers and other children in the classroom. He was initially very shy, but now enjoys playing with the other children and will ask for certain children when he walks into the classroom in the morning. Jonathan is still hard to understand, but he is using his words so much more.

Child's Name: Cody C.

DOB: 4/9/03

Developmental Areas	CA: 29 months	
Fine Motor	19 to 23 months	
Cognition	20 to 23 months	
Social/Emotional	27 to 31 months	
Self Help	23 to 31 months	
Gross Motor	27 months	
Language	28 months	

Cody has a diagnosis of PDD-NOS from the Mind Institute and has persistent reflux and severe allergies which has led to food aversion. It is significant that Cody will sit in a cube chair at the snack table with the other children now since he used to only stay at the snack table if he sat in a chair from which he couldn't escape. Cody is also beginning to willingly follow our classroom routine and will regularly engage in group pretend play by being a passenger on a pretend train or helping to build a snowman out of pillow fluff. He has been involved with PIDP since he was an infant and has been part of our playgroup since mid November.

Child's Name: Lindsay G.

DOB: 8/29/03

Developmental Areas	CA: 25 months	
Fine Motor	28 to 29 months	
Cognition	31 to 32 months	
Social/Emotional	24 to 25 months	
Self Help	25 to 28 months	
Gross Motor	24 to 25 months	
Language	17 to 20 months	

Lindsay just joined the playgroup in January. She was adopted from China when she was 11 months old. She arrived home malnourished and very small on the growth chart. Lindsay has some sensory needs with auditory processing and oral aversions. She intently watches the other children during snack time, and often will follow their leads and eat her snack or blow on the whistles.

<u>Outcome:</u> All families served are supported in becoming knowledgeable and competent in child nurturing, child interaction, child learning, and parenting skills that promote positive child development.

Performance Measures: Demographics

• 12 children, aged 1-3 years, were served by the Community Inclusion Playgroup Project in the past 7 months

Table 1: Number of Children in Project by Age and Gender

Age	Number of Males	Number of Females
Less than 1 year	0	0
1 year	0	2
2 years	6	4
3 years	0	0

- Of the children served, 10 were Caucasian, 1 was Hispanic, 1 was Asian.
- The average length of service for children is 8.75 months.

<u>Outcome</u>: All families served are supported in becoming knowledgeable and competent in child nurturing, child interaction, child learning, and parenting skills that promote positive child development.

<u>Performance Measure:</u> Parent satisfaction survey

Parent Survey

Baby Steps/ Placer Infant Development Program

Please answer the following questions:

- 1. How has your child's development increased lately?
 - She has been adjusting to a schedule
 - She says her ABC's now
 - Increased interaction with peers and increased tolerance to sensory input
 - Increase verbalization and ability to follow directions
- 2. What knowledge and skills have you developed or gained to assist your child's development?
 - More open to talking with adults
 - I need to continue to offer sensory input
 - Skills to assist increasing his expressive language
 - Knowledge regarding his sensory issues
 - Information on the best way to talk to Lindsay so she will understand me
 - Tips on how to help her overcome some sensory deficits, improve balance, etc.
- 3. In what way do you feel supported as a parent in the playgroups?
 - The teachers at Baby Steps let me know her progress and how she is doing
 - Other parents in the group are experiencing similar issues with their children
 - Parents share experiences
 - Teachers offer theory and practical advice (speech therapist, infant educator, OT)

- Consistent contact with staff
- Support in parenting a child with special needs
- My questions for the staff are always answered thoroughly and honestly
- Networking with other parents is very encouraging
- 4. How can we better support you?
 - Fill out a report on how they do at your program daily
 - Continue classes
 - Everything is going well, I feel adequately supported
- 5. What can we do to improve your experience at the playgroup?
 - Classical music (softly) in the classroom
 - So far I am very happy with the group
- 6. Please tell us:
 - a. The benefits you see from participating in the playgroup
 - Increase in sensory tolerance
 - Increased interaction with his peers
 - Two times weekly interaction with OT, SLP, and ECSE
 - Parent participation to decrease the anxiety of the child
 - Modeling of expressive language by his peers
 - Good socialization and new challenges keep Lindsay's mind and body growing
 - Lindsay's behavior and sleep patterns improve when she is in playgroup
 - b. Your concerns in participating in the playgroup
 - Overstimulation at times with the activities
 - Exposure to children with illness
 - Poor staffing in the Head Start program sometimes effects their participation

Comments:

- Great group, thanks!
- Excellent program, the staff are very knowledgeable and helpful. The consistent staffing and multidisciplinary team approach are great.